TOMPKINS COUNTY
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
121 East Court Street Ithaca, New York 14850
Telephone (607) 274-5560 Fax (607) 274-5578

Resolution

EMC No. 3-2000 - Resolution Recommending Cornell University Select the Site Remediation Alternative Offering the Highest Degree of Permanence

WHEREAS, Cornell University has prepared a Feasibility Study on their Radiation Disposal Site (RDS), dated February 1, 1999, identifying and evaluating six options for site remediation; and

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Environmental Management Council serves as an advisory group on issues of the environment to the Tompkins County Board of Representatives and the community; and

WHEREAS, Cornell University has selected Option 2 as its preferred alternative, as it received the highest total score in the feasibility study ratings system; and

WHEREAS, Option 2 received a higher score in the ratings system because of its lower cost, but was classified by the study as "not a permanent solution;" and all described options include a monitoring period of only thirty years, and

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Environmental Management Council is concerned about reducing toxic mobility, ensuring the long-term effectiveness of the remediation, and providing for ongoing monitoring of the site and affected areas, and

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Environmental Management Council has determined that among the given alternatives Option 6 appears to address these concerns while remaining, according to the study, equally protective of human health and safety; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Tompkins County Environmental Management Council urges Cornell University to identify and select an alternative, such as Option 6, which provides the most permanent solution possible without involving the transfer of contaminated waste outside of its county of origin; and

RESOLVED, further, That the Tompkins County Environmental Management Council recommends that the Board of Representatives strongly urge Cornell University to select an alternative which eliminates toxicity mobility, requires ongoing monitoring beyond thirty years and is determined to be a long-term remediation solution.

Date: April 12, 2000

Voting in favor: 11 Voting against: 1 Abstentions: 4